

U.S. ARMY

Hollywood

Highlighting entertainment media featuring the U.S. Army

LOS ANGELES ■ NOVEMBER 2011 ■ www.Facebook.com/USArmyEntertainmentOffice



Army Hollywood: Big Stat, October 2011

U.S. Army entertainment stories aired on American networks an average of 5 times each week in October.

YOU'LL NEVER FORGET 'ARMY BASIC'

New TV series tells story of Army Trainers

A major network has begun work on a new hour-long dramatic series about Army Basic Training. The focus will be on the personal lives and professional challenges of Army Drill Sergeants.

The show's creator is a former Army Officer and graduate of the USMA. Since selling the concept the production team has been moving fast on the pilot, with the script nearly complete.

For ideas and authenticity, execs and OCPA-LA Director, Ken Hawes, recently visited Fort Jackson to spend time with the training program there. Execs said they were impressed with the quality and professionalism of all the Army instructors they met and their ability to take fresh-off-the-street recruits and develop them into great Soldiers.

Getting this right is huge, according to Hawes. "This series could define in the public's mind the risks and rewards of the Army Basic experience. And whether they want to turn over the care of their sons and daughters to the Army."

Hawes says once the cast is selected the intent is to run them through both mini-Basic and mini-Drill Instructor courses to give them a real understanding and appreciation for this life-changing experience.

If you're a product of Army Basic, this show is sure to have you standing at attention. Series to air in the Spring 2012.



Some still fight

'Our America with Lisa Ling', episode titled, "**BROKEN SOLDIERS**", looks at treatment options for U.S. veterans after ten years of war. Ling looks at the life and death struggles of mothers, fathers, husbands and

wives, still coming to grips with the longest wars in U.S. history; some traumatized, depressed, and at times suicidal, long after leaving the battlefields behind. **Airs, Nov. 6, at 9 p.m., the Oprah Winfrey Network.**

Must See TV

Ellen says, 'Thank you, Army!'

If you love Soldier stories that'll make you cry with pride, don't miss The **Ellen DeGeneres Show's** **Veteran's Day** episode.

Ellen reached to the 1st Cav. in Afghanistan for a unique Army story sure to touch viewer hearts across America with a story of Army families, dedication and professionalism. Can't tell you more than that! Other than, 'Kudos' to LTC Carroll, MSG Conner and the 1st Cav. PA team! Peggin' the Connect-o-Meter!
ELLEN, Nov. 11, 4 p.m. on NBC



The 3rd Inf. Div. fights 350 miles in three weeks to take Baghdad.

'THUNDER RUN' TO BAGHDAD!

Eight years in Iraq obscured the unprecedented successes of the 2003 invasion force. Now director Simon West ('Black Hawk Down') and Pulitzer-winning writer David Zucchino are developing a film chronicling the pivotal April 2003 fight to take Baghdad.

OCPA-LA is working with the producers to hone the story and actual battle veterans to ensure authenticity. Signing on to play a trio of Soldiers in the film version are Matt McConaughey, Sam Worthington and Gerard Butler!



SFC Duane Brown
NCOIC, OCPA-LA

The Army Public Affairs Alumni Association recently presented the first 'Marcia Triggs Award for Excellence' to OCPA-LA's SFC Duane Brown, stating, "His service at the 22nd MPAD, DINFOS, and ARCENT demonstrates his professionalism, talent, and leadership."

Congratulations, SFC Brown, we're proud of you!

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Telling the Army story millions of viewers per episode!

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'REAL ARMY FAMILIES OF AK' WARMED BY GREEN-LIGHTS

Leaders at U.S. Army Pacific and Alaska commands approved moving forward on a new TV series telling the story of real Army families. Set in Alaska ("It's hard. It's harder in Alaska.") the lifestyle documentary will follow a half-dozen Army families to capture their unique stories of dedication, service and sacrifice.

The exec producer grew up Army; daughter of an O-5. Her empathy and understanding were essential to this first-ever getting approved.

With casting underway (250 submissions so far), the series would film in the Spring for airing on the Oprah Winfrey Network, Fall 2012.

If the Army lifestyle connects with viewers plans are to showcase other Army families and installations in subsequent seasons.

DOC WATCH

Big 'Triggers': Airs Wed., Nov. 30

Mil Channel's new weapons rock series premieres this month. Don't miss Episode 4 on Dec. 21, 'Artillery'. It's all Fort Sill and Gods of Thunder!

'Off Limits': Picatinny Arsenal

Travel Channel series, 'Off Limits', takes viewers behind the scenes to Picatinny's labs and ranges to talk with Army innovators and technology experts.

Best of the Best: Ranger-style

Action doc follows 'Best Ranger 2012' comp and is sure to make you feel like doing a pushup or two. Benning's 29th year putting the Gruel in grueling.



Sorry... We don't do 'Celebrities'

A couple times a month we get calls from PAOs or units asking us to find them celebrities who can participate in PSAs, unit events, shout-outs, etc., etc...

Among the misconceptions about life in L.A. is that working at OCPA-LA means we're always

hanging out with stars, on the beach, or out clubbing.

The reality is we work on the front-end of projects, coordinating with producers, writers or directors. We rarely deal with 'talent' and have little contact with actors.

Sorry, gotta run, time for Pilates...



Tough Audience



Army CPA, Maj. Gen. Stephen Lanza, views an upcoming episode of "Army Wives", during a recent visit to the show's 'Writer's Room' in Los Angeles. "Army Wives" is now in its 6th season and the #1 television series on the Lifetime Network, connecting with over 4 million viewers each week.

Open Ops Leads 101 Film

A new doc film, "Outside the Wire", hits film festival circuits this month, celebrating the work of the 101st Airborne's, 4th Brigade - 'Currahees'.

Filmmaker, Meg Prior, went to Afghanistan on another project. No military background or experience, she soon found herself captivated by the Soldier's work she saw there. 101st leadership recognized an opportunity and took her under legendary wings.

Prior travelled back to shoot her own film, and would spend four months in combat to tell the Army's 'Screaming Eagles' story. Hooah!

Salutafact:

Over the past ten years more than 5.2 million Americans have served in the U.S. military. God Bless Vets!



People cover, Nov. 7

J.R. is Top 3 Fan Favorite: Hooah!

Former Soldier J.R. Martinez, 28, continues to impress America on the hit ABC series, "Dancing With The Stars". Audiences have voted him a 'Top 3'. Judges this week gave him perfect '10s'. Vegas says he and his dance partner could take the coveted mirror ball trophy.

Setting the example in Army fashion, J.R. says, "I'm being blessed in so many ways, and it's because of the energy I'm putting out in the world." Army Can-Do spirit.

The former *All My Children* actor survived a 2003 explosion while serving as an Infantryman in Iraq, suffering severe burns over 40% of his body.

Text in your votes and support Monday evenings!

Office of the Chief of Public Affairs – West (OCPA-LA)



'Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen'; White Sands Missile Range, September 2008



OCPA-West serves as the **U.S. Army's direct liaison** with the entertainment industry (domestic and international) to **educate** American and global audiences about the U.S. Army, ensure **realistic and plausible** portrayals of Soldiers in the entertainment media, assist in Army **recruiting**, and improve the **morale** and **retention** of the troops.

For future assistance please phone, 310-235-7621, or email:

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